

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to spread the message?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) No "World Wild Animals Day" was observed during October, 1990. However, "Wildlife Week" was celebrated during the first week of October, coinciding with the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

(b) A number of programmes were organised throughout the country by the State Governments, which included organisation of talks, seminars and workshops, photography, painting and essay competitions, visits to zoos, sanctuaries & national parks by school children etc. The media was also used extensively to convey the message of wildlife conservation.

(c) and (d) The Prime Minister's message on the occasion of the wildlife week was circulated to all the State Governments and they were advised to give wide publicity to it through the media and by translating into local languages.

[English]

Demand of Foodgrains and Edible Oil

4769. SHRI ANCHAL DAS : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has placed any demand to enhance the quota of foodgrains and edible oil for 1997-98;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Orissa have requested for maintaining the present level of monthly allocation of foodgrains (One lac MTs of rice and 50,000 MTs of wheat) under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and have also made a demand for allocation of imported edible during the year 1997 as under :

January to July 1997 - 200 MTs per month

August to November 97 - 1200 MTs per month

(c) Under the TPDS, the annual allocation of foodgrains to States/UTs has been fixed on the basis of average annual lifting for 10 years. Accordingly, the annual allocation of foodgrains for Orissa comes to 426.45 thousand MTs. of

which 381.80 thousand MTs is for Below Poverty Line (BPL) and 44.65 thousand MTs is for Above Poverty Line (APL) population.

Scientific Research

4770. SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Government on development of science during the last five years;

(b) whether the allocation of amount has been very low keeping in view the importance of Scientific Research at present;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the allocation for Scientific Research during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the manner in which the Government propose to ensure that the country's industries etc. compete with those of developed countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The amount spent by the Government on development of science in the Central Sector during the last Plan period of five years (1992-97) has been estimated to be of the order of Rupees eleven thousand crores.

(b) The expenditure on promotion of scientific research has been steadily on the increase. The allocations during the Eighth Plan were more than doubled as compared to the Seventh Plan.

(c) and (d) While the allocations under scientific research are proposed to be stepped up in the ninth plan, there are specific schemes and also policy initiatives in position to ensure that the country's industries compete with those of developed countries.

Travancore Titanium Products

4771. SHRI KODI KUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints about the Travancore Titanium products in Trivandrum, Kerala for the environmental issue;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have issued any notice to Travancore Titanium products for the pollution and environmental protection; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?